



Upper San Marcos River Watershed Protection Plan Implementation

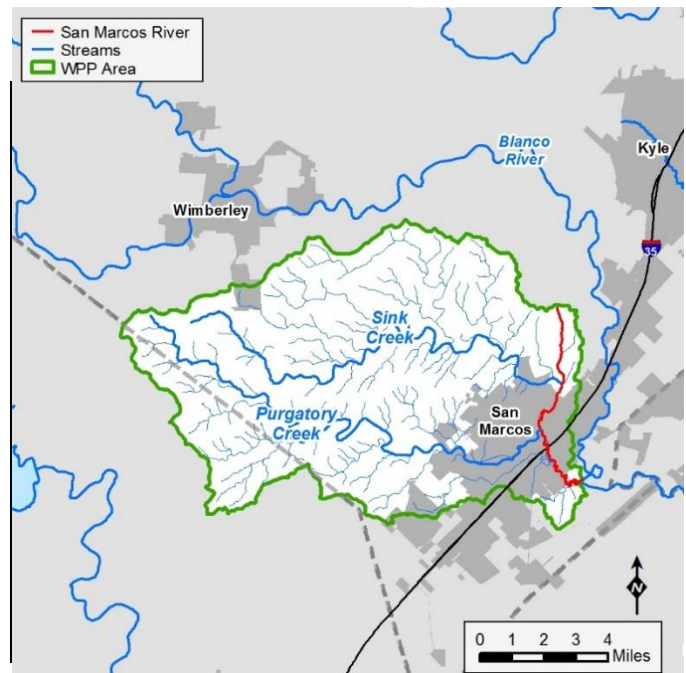
Water Body	Upper San Marcos River (1814)
Location	San Marcos, Hay County
River Basin	Guadalupe River (18)
Contractor	Texas State University, The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment
Project Period	September 1, 2017 to August 31, 2019
Project Total	\$299,522 (Federal 60% and Local Match 40%)

Background

The Upper San Marcos River, segment 1814, is 4.5 miles long and extends from Spring Lake to its confluence with the Blanco River. The river is primarily spring-fed and is classified for contact recreation, exceptional aquatic life use, and drinking water supply for downstream users. In 2010, the Upper San Marcos River was listed on TCEQ's 303(d) list of impaired waters for exceeding total dissolved solids (TDS) water quality standards but has since been delisted. In 2012, the San Marcos Watershed Initiative was formed to address water quality concerns in the San Marcos River watershed. The Initiative, the Meadows Center for Water and the Environment, and stakeholders partnered together to begin developing a Watershed Protection Plan (WPP). The WPP addresses the previously listed impairment for TDS, as well as other parameters identified by stakeholders including, *E. coli*, nutrients, and sediment. To mitigate future water quality impairments in the watershed, stakeholders selected a suite of best management practices (BMPs) to be included in the WPP.

Project Description

This project will implement measures outlined in the Upper San Marcos WPP. Stakeholders selected a suite of structural and non-structural BMPs to mitigate current and future potential water quality impairments in the watershed. This first implementation phase will include functional demonstration projects/BMPs, education and outreach activities, a review of water quality protection ordinances, and coordination of water quality monitoring activities. Structural BMPs will be used for new development and retrofits for existing development. There will also be demonstration projects, which will be used to encourage the adoption of low impact development measures, and will provide cost and pollution reduction information to the City of San Marcos and Texas State University. Community workshops and watershed tours will be held in the watershed to educate stakeholders on nonpoint source pollution.



Current Status

The project has commenced.

Public Participation

This project will hold quarterly stakeholder meetings to track project progress and identify any adaptive management efforts. Two water quality workshops will also be held to further educate stakeholders. The project website will be updated regularly.

For More Information

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Project Highlights

- 10/2017 – The project commenced.